


REMARKS

The present application was filed on December 14, 1999 with claims 1-8. Claims 9-19 were added in an Amendment dated March 7, 2001. As set forth in the Decision on Appeal issued by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on August 31, 2005 in connection with Appeal No. 2005-1952, the rejection of claims 6, 7, 13 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and the rejection of claims 8 and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 are affirmed (BPAI Decision on Appeal; page 11, first paragraph). The rejections of claims 1-5 and 9-12 have been expressly withdrawn by the Examiner in response to arguments filed in Applicants' Supplemental Appeal Brief filed on April 26, 2004 (BPAI Decision on Appeal; page 3, paragraph 4), and are therefore believed to be allowed.

In this response, claims 6-8 and 13-19 have been canceled. These amendments are intended to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendments.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that pending claims 1-5 and 9-12 are in condition for allowance and, as such, respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne L. Ellenbogen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "W" and "E".

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